Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space

Alan Calder & Bhama Daly
Teaching and Learning Development
James Cook University, Cairns
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space

- 9 years of research and evaluation
- Cairns campus environment
- Video stills & selected quotes
- What are the features of an effective learning space?
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (environmental context)
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (environmental context)
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (building location)
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (access and visibility)
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (usage)

Of the 6744 students who entered the Library in a week, 1421 accessed the Learning Centre.
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (students, mentors & staff)

"...it's a place where students and staff, undergraduates and graduates can meet and talk informally about issues affecting their course..."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (first year students)

"We use the Learning Centre for meeting up and doing our group work."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (mentors & first year students)

"It's a sense of community... it's made it like we've really gotten to know other people sitting in here and working here... we've crossed over all faculties."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (mentors & first year students)

"Any area of importance in the University has got a space, so before we actually got this space, mentors I don't think, were taken too seriously."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (mentors & first year students)

"...it's also made me more willing to mentor because it's a comfortable place."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (mentors & first year students)

"...it's a safe environment - it makes it easier to do the mentoring. I think in this room I've been more help to people than I ever was before."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (learning advisers & first year students)

"...it's just that first semester, after that I got enough confidence to go off and do it myself."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (academic staff & first year students)

"...with my philosophy of student empowerment and flexible practice, I have moved from my environment (office) to my students' own space."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space (students, mentors & staff)

"...there's a sort of community feel - a vibe."
Share a space for some thought: The dynamics of a learning space

What are the features of an effective learning space?

•

•

•

•

•

•

•

•